

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, Claims 1 and 11 have been amended, and claim 14 has been cancelled. Claims 1-25 are pending, of which claims 15-24 have been allowed.

The Office Action rejects Applicants' independent Claim 1 and claims 2-5, 7, 8, and 10-12 dependent thereon under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Bischoff (U.S. 6,016,436) in view of Hoff (U.S. 5,522,872). The Office Action objects to claims 6, 9, 13 and 14 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. In order to expedite prosecution, however, Applicant has amended claim 1 to include the allowable subject matter of claim 14 thereby placing claim 1, as well as claims 2-13 and claim 25 dependent thereon, in condition for allowance.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited. Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this Amendment, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned attorney to attend to those matters.

Respectfully submitted,

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September 18, 2007
Date

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